SCITY OF STOCKTON

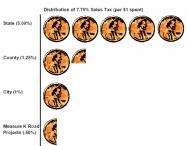
Your Money Matters

How does the Motor Vehicle License Fee (VLF) affect the City?

- The State Constitution dedicates the portion of the VLF revenue that is in lieu of a local property tax to fund local government (cities and counties)
- The State Legislature decreased the VLF by 67% starting in 1998
- The Legislation "backfilled" the lost local revenue to cities and counties from the State General Fund, and included a provision to increase the VLF if the State had insufficient funds to "backfill"
- The State Director of Finance has stated the State has insufficient funds to backfill the tax, and the VLF is expected to rise on October 1
- The City expects to receive about \$15.6 million in 2003-04 General Fund revenue from the VLF -\$5.1 million from the fee and \$10.5 million from the backfill
- If the Legislature or Courts fail to provide local government with either backfill or VLF tax revenue, the City would lose \$10.5 million annually, or \$875,000 each month if there is a lag between the end of backfilling and the beginning of the tax
- The VLF is one of the City's largest revenue sources—a loss of this revenue would severely affect the City's abilities to provide essential services including police and fire

\$ales Tax-where does it go?

- San Joaquin County sales tax is 7.75% \$7.75 tax on each \$100 purchased
- The State is considering increasing the sales tax by .5% to pay back the State's debt—none of this revenue would go to local government
- The 1% sales tax is the City's largest source of General Fund revenue - an estimated \$33.3 million in 2003-04
- The City of Stockton uses sales tax revenue to fund police, fire, and other essential city public services
- 71% of the City's General Fund expenditures are for Police and Fire



For more information go to www.stocktongov.com